

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2016 - 2017, 19 October 2016

Ref No: SQ16-000520

OUTCOME: 4 - Individual Health Benefits

Topic: Audiometrics

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Siewert, Rachel

Question:

1. What is the projected demand for Audiometrists or qualified hearing care clinicians in Australia?
2. Was the Office of Hearing Services consulted by the Department of Education prior to any changes made to the VET FEE-HELP for the Diploma of Audiology?
 - If not, will the Office of Hearing Services meet with the Department of Education and review the proposed VET FEE-HELP changes that could impact enrolments for the Diploma of Audiology?

Answer:

1. The Department of Employment's Job Outlook web site states that "employment for Speech Professionals and Audiologists to November 2020 is expected to grow very strongly." Projected employment is expected to increase from 9.6 thousand to 13.5 thousand.
2. The Office of Hearing Services was not directly consulted. In response to the Department of Education and Training public consultation process on the eligible course list, Ms Trisha Garrett, Assistant Secretary Office of Hearing Services, wrote to the Department of Education and Training on 26 October 2016.